IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 17-21 as follows:

17. A physical platform comprising an array of nucleic acid polymers immobilized at a predetermined position on a solid support:

wherein the array is comprised of at least two different isolated nucleic acid polymers which are each specific for a different gene associated with lipid metabolism, synthesis, or action; and

genomic DNA derived from a patient tissue sample that is further comprised of a label and that contacts the array under conditions wherein hybridization of the genomic DNA and the immobilized nucleic acid polymers are determined by detecting the label at the predetermined position of at the at least two isolated nucleic acid polymers.

18. The platform of claim 17 wherein the at least two isolated nucleic acid polymers are specific for two genes selected from the group consisting of Phosphatidylinositol-3-kinase (catalytic, alpha polypeptide), Phospholipase D1 (phosphatidylcholine specific), Dihydroxyacetone phosphate acyltransferase, Phosphate cytidylyltransferase 1 (choline specific, alpha form), Phosphate cytidylyltransferase 2 (ethanolamine specific), Phosphatidic Acid Phosphatase type 2c, Prostate Differentiation Factor PLAB, Phospholipase A2, Phospholipase C beta 3 (phosphatidylinositol specific), Phosphatidylinositol-3-Kinase (class2, gamma polypeptide), Choline/ethanolamine phosphotransferase, Lyosphospholipase, Aldehyde dehydrogenase (5 family, member A1), Phospholipase D1 glycosylphosphatidylinositol specific, 1-acylglycerol-3-phosphate acyltransferase, Phosphatidic Acid Phosphate type 2b, Edg 1, Glycerol-3-phosphate dehydrogenase, Sphingosine-1-phosphate lyase 1, Phosphatase and Tenson Homolog (PTEN), Phosphatidic Acid Phosphatase type

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2a, Sphingomyelin phosphodiesterase 1, N-acylsphingosine amidohydrolase, Glycerol Kinase, Diacylglycerol Kinase gamma, Acyl-dihydroxyacetone phosphate reductase, Triacylglycerol lipase, EDG 2, EDG 3, EDG 4, EDG 5, EDG 6, and EDG 7.

19. The platform of claim 18 wherein at least one of the at least two genes is selected from the group consisting of Phosphatidylinositol-3-kinase (catalytic, alpha polypeptide), Phospholipase D1 (phosphatidylcholine specific), Prostate Differentiation Factor PLAB, Phospholipase A2, Phospholipase D1 glycosylphosphatidylinositol specific, Edg 1, Glycerol-3-phosphate dehydrogenase, EDG 2, EDG 3, EDG 4, EDG 5, EDG 6, and EDG 7.

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- 20. The platform of claim 17 wherein at least one of the isolated nucleic acid polymers is comprised of at least about 19 nucleotides.
- 21. The platform of claim 17 wherein at least one of the isolated nucleic acid polymers specific for the selected genes is a nucleic acid polymer comprising at least about 19 nucleotides which hybridize under the conditions to a non-coding sequence functionally linked to the coding region of one of the selected genes, wherein the functionally linked sequence is unique to that gene.